Medical Control Guideline: DRUG REFERENCE – MORPHINE

Ref. No. 1317.27

Classification

Opiate Analgesic

Prehospital Indications

Multiple provider impressions: pain management

Other Common Indications

None

Adult Dose

4mg (1mL) slow IV/IO push or IM, repeat every 5 min prn, maximum total dose prior to Base contact 12mg

Contact Base for additional pain management after maximum dose administered: may repeat dose for a maximum total dose of 20mg

Pediatric Dose

0.1mg/kg (4mg/mL) slow IV/IO push or IM, dose per *MCG 1309*, repeat in 5 min x1, maximum 2 total doses prior to Base contact

Contact Base for additional pain management after maximum dose administered: may repeat dose for a maximum 4 total doses

Mechanism of Action

Narcotic agonist- analgesic of opiate receptors; inhibits ascending pain pathways, thus altering response to pain.

Pharmacokinetics

Onset is immediate IV, 15-30 min IM; duration is 2-7 hr

Contraindications

Hypotension or evidence or poor perfusion

History of allergy to morphine or other narcotic medications

Interactions

Central nervous system depressants, sedatives, barbiturates, alcohol, benzodiazepines and tricyclic depressants may potentiate the central nervous system and respiratory depressant effects.

Adverse Effects

Decrease cough reflex

Disorientation

Hypotension

Nausea and vomiting

Respiratory depression

Prehospital Considerations

- Monitor vital signs at regular intervals
- Consider monitoring with EtCO₂ if available
- Use extreme caution in patient at risk for respiratory depression or ALOC
- Naloxone may be used for reversal of respiratory depression if needed

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